

March 6, 1974

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, members of the legislature, I wish to speak in behalf of my colleagues comments this morning. I as a member of the Executive Board have always thought that the good fight but has never been one that I will win, but at least I wish to compliment Senator Carsten here today is because what he is saying is that we are spending too much time on some of these bills and this is what we are really bringing out today and that we could probably move along as fast as possible if we would look at the television as just a means of another thing as we go along in our legislative battles, and not spend and carry back and forth again to the same subject. I think that it is a good point that he has made here today, and with the bills that we still have on the board, it will be necessary to discipline ourselves. Discipline ourselves so that we can finish that legislation without speaking two and three times on each subject.

PRESIDENT: Thank you now there is only one more light. Senator Savage.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Mr. President, I am placing myself in a peculiar position being a former newsman defending my former competition, but I don't think that the legislature should get into the business of editing the news, and I know what a difficult job he has in trying to squeeze a lot of this stuff that comes on the floor here into a half-hour program, so I think that we should pass on and do the job that we are trying to do down here.

PRESIDENT: Anyone else wishing to speak on this motion? I see no one. Senator Carsten, do you wish to close?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the legislature, I want to assure this body that this proposal this morning is not made in frustration. It is made in the pure form of concern. I say that truthfully. This did not come about or urge me to do it this morning by only the program last night. I want to say too, that it has been my firm belief and it has also been commented on by more than one, that the television is conducive to less discipline in our body. This is something that we do need to do more of. I think that it is quite evident that and before when we had the cameras here, one or two days a week, we readily saw that our progress was slow on those days and we moved rather well on the days that they were not here. As I said originally, I am not opposed to the people of Nebraska, learning and knowing what is going on, but I do not think that we need to be fully covered from the time the gavel starts in the morning to it sounds at night. Relative to the comments to the program, I too have many people in my district that watch this program and have commented on it, favorably, and for this I am glad. I have told the TV people what my people are saying to me at home and that I have complimented them on it, but by the same token I want to tell you that there have been comments made to me about this program that I dare not make on the floor of this legislature for fear that I would be campaigning against some of membership. I do think that the debate and the discussion that we had on 1028 was of upmost importance to the people of Nebraska. The people of the rural areas and particularly the cattle feeders of this moment are faced with an extreme and I emphasize the word "extreme" problem. They are wondering what we are trying to do. Yesterday was an evidence of what our agriculture committee and this legislative body is trying to do, not overnight. As you all know and I know, that at least yet too, we